

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Yasuhiko TABATA

Application No.: 10/549,695

Confirmation No.: 9610

Filed: May 26, 2006

Art Unit: 1615

For: SUSTAINED-RELEASE HYDROGEL  
PREPARATION

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Examiner: A. Sasan

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1, 3 and 4, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4.